

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANTHONY CERVANTES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anthony Cervantes for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Anthony Cervantes is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anthony Cervantes is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anthony Cervantes for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING COLONEL RALPH L.
SCHWADER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Colonel Ralph L. Schwader, Commander of the Missouri Air National Guard's 139th Airlift Wing. Colonel Schwader has dedicated years of service to not only the people of Missouri, but in defense of the United States of America. It is with great honor that I take a moment to recognize Colonel Schwader today.

On paper alone, Colonel Schwader is an incredibly impressive man. His list of various commands, deployments, decorations and awards could fill volumes. However, what you will never see on paper are the people he has touched while on those deployments or commands. The lives he has touched while earning those decorations and awards. Colonel Schwader may never know the lives he has saved delivering supplies to soldiers in the field while deployed for Operations Desert Shield, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom, among many other deployments and service stations. The lives other airmen he saved through training provided under his command by the Advanced Airlift Training Center. He may never fully know the gratitude for aid he helped provide to other Missourians during a flood or tornado or internationally to Haiti following the earthquake of 2010. It is on behalf of those people who haven't been able to give their thanks, myself and everyone in the Sixth Congressional District that I give my deepest

thanks to Colonel Schwader for his dedication and service.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Colonel Ralph L. Schwader for his decades of service to Missouri, the Sixth Congressional District and to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALL-
EN MISSISSIPPI ARMY STAFF
SERGEANT (SSG) SCOTTIE LEE
BRIGHT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to rise today in memory of Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Scottie Lee Bright who was killed on July 5, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SSG Bright was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle during patrol operations in Baghdad.

SSG Bright was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Carson, Colorado.

SSG Bright, a Jackson, Mississippi native, was a 1986 graduate of Lanier High School. SSG Bright joined the Army in 1991. His brother Willie Bright said SSG Bright loved the Army and especially younger soldiers. Willie said his brother was his hero.

SSG Bright's funeral was held on what would have been his 37th birthday. More than 200 people filled the New Ebenezer Baptist Church that day. Reverend Dan Day called the event a "homecoming celebration" because Heaven was SSG Bright's new address. SSG Bright's wife, Carolyn, told those in attendance that her husband was a wonderful husband and father and loved by his family very much.

At the funeral, Brigadier General (BG) Robert Crear presented SSG Bright's family with military awards including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

During the graveside service at Autumn Woods Cemetery, a Mississippi Army National Guard honor guard played "Taps" He was also given a 21-gun salute.

SSG Bright is survived by his wife, Carolyn and their children, Breshay Nicole and Scottie Lee Bright, Jr.

SSG Bright gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedoms we all enjoy. His service to our nation will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING JULY AS DRY EYE
AWARENESS MONTH DURING
THE DECADE OF VISION 2010
THROUGH 2020

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, in 2009, I was proud to co-sponsor with my then-House colleague the Honorable Tammy Baldwin the successfully passed H. Res. 366, which designated 2010 through 2020 as "The Decade of Vision." Accompanied by the Senate's successfully passed companion legislation S. Res. 209, these resolutions recognized the challenges to the vision health of our nation's citizens as the population ages and the incidence of chronic diseases—such as diabetes—grows, causing eye disease and visual impairment.

In the spirit of those resolutions, I am pleased to recognize July as Dry Eye Awareness Month. Dry eye, a growing global problem that affects more than 30 million people in the United States alone, occurs when the eye does not produce tears properly or they are not of the correct consistency and evaporate too quickly. It can range from discomfort to a painful chronic and progressive condition that leads to blurred vision or even vision loss. Dry eye impacts our nation's healthcare policy, as it is one of the most frequent causes of patient visits to eye care providers.

Although past research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and its National Eye Institute (NEI) on the causes of and treatments for the condition has identified age, sex, and gender as factors, it has now discovered ethnic and racial differences, and that dry eye impacts younger patients. This "equal opportunity" disease can have many causes, including environmental exposure; side-effects from medications; eye surgery; eye lid disorders; immune system diseases such as Sjögren's syndrome, lupus, or rheumatoid arthritis; contact lens wear; cosmetic use; aesthetic procedures; and an increasingly common cause—staring at computer or video screens for too long without blinking. Many are calling dry eye the "Disease of the Millennials" due to its increased incidence in that population.

Dry eye has also been a major issue for our brave soldiers who were engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Veterans Administration reports that upwards of 70 percent of Traumatic Brain Injury-exposed veterans have dry eye symptoms.

During the 2017 Dry Eye Awareness Month, the Tear Film & Ocular Surface Society's Dry Eye Workshop II (TFOS DEWS II) Report will be published in The Ocular Surface Journal, updating the definition of dry eye and addressing its greater impact on vision health—the first such re-examination since 2007. Report highlights will be presented at a July 12 Congressional Briefing, accompanied by a "Test

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